

# HUMAN MISERY CONFRONTS DIVINE MERCY

*John 8:1-11*

## I. HIS RETIREMENT IN THE EVENING OUT OF TOWN.

- A. The persecutors went to their own homes. **John 7:53** And everyone went to his home. (NASB)
- B. Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. **John 8:1** But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. (NASB)

## II. HIS RETURN IN THE MORNING TO THE TEMPLE, AND THE WORK THERE.

- A. He returned to the Temple in the morning. **John 8:2** And early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people were coming to Him; and He sat down and [began] to teach them.
  - 1. What a diligent teacher He was indeed, early in the morning.
  - 2. The place was in the Temple where the people were.
  - 3. He sat down to teach as one having authority.
- B. All the people came to Him for He always had something to say.

## III. HIS DEALING WITH THOSE THAT BROUGHT TO HIM THE WOMAN TAKEN IN ADULTERY, TEMPTING HIM.

- A. The case proposed to Him by the deceitful plotting Scribes. **John 8:3-6**.
  - 1. They set the prisoner to the bar. **John 8:3** And the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the midst, (NASB)
  - 2. They prefer an indictment against her. **John 8:4** they said to Him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act. (NASB)
  - 3. Today He is their Master, but what of yesterday? **John 7:20** The multitude answered, "You have a demon! Who seeks to kill You?" (NASB)
  - 4. They present the statute in this case upon which she is indicted. **John 8:5** "Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?" See Deut. 22:22.
  - 5. They ask the Lord's judgment in order to tempt Him. **John 8:6** And they were saying this, testing Him, in order that they might have grounds for accusing Him. ...
- B. The method He took to resolve this case, and thus to break His snare.
  - 1. He pretended not to hear the allegations. **John 8:6** ... But Jesus stooped down, and with His finger wrote on the ground. (NASB) See **James 1:19** ...But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak [and] slow to anger; (NASB)
  - 2. He turned the conviction of the prisoner upon those prosecutors. **John 8:7** But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him [be the] first to throw a stone at her." (NASB)
    - a. The word "persisted" is in the "Greek imperfect tense" which means they repeatedly asked Him and the more He wrote the more angry they became.
    - b. Jesus turns to the Law of Moses as He asked for clean hands to be the first to stone the woman. **Deuteronomy 17:7** "The hand of the witnesses shall be first against him to put him to death, and afterward the hand of all the people. So you shall purge the evil from your midst. (NASB)
    - c. His aim was to bring the woman to repentance by showing her mercy and to bring the accusers to repentance by exposing them.

- d. He stoops down one more time. **John 8:8** And again He stooped down, and wrote on the ground. (NASB) See Jere. 17:1.
- e. The men are frightened of Christ and creep out of the court. **John 8:9** And when they heard it, they [began] to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the midst. (NASB)
- (1) The force of the word of Christ. **Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. (NASB)
- (2) The folly of these sinning men under conviction. They left. To whom? **John 8:9** And when they heard it, they [began] to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones... (NASB)
- f. When the *self-conceited* prosecutors left the Treasury, the *self-condemned* prisoner stood her ground. **John 8:9** ... and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the midst. (NASB)
- g. Here is the conclusion of the trial. **John 8:10-11** And straightening up, Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?" 11 And she said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go your way. From now on sin no more.") (NASB)
- (1) Her discharge from temporal punishment. "Did no one condemn you?"
- (2) Her discharge from eternal punishment. "Neither do I condemn you."